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**STATE OF HAWAII**  
**PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION**  
**DEPARTMENT OF BUDGET AND FINANCE**

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October 5, 2009

Katherine M. Prescott  
Mark J. Prescott  
P.O. Box 22  
Pahoa, Hawaii 96778

Catherine P. Awakuni  
Executive Director  
Division of Consumer Advocacy  
Department of Commerce and  
Consumer Affairs  
P. O. Box 541  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96809

Re: Docket No. 2009-0161 – Application of Hawaiian Beaches Water Company, Inc.  
("HBWC") for Review and Approval of Rate Increases; and Revised Rate  
Schedules.

Dear Parties:

The enclosed, received by the Commission on October 3, 2009, via e-mail, concerning  
the above-referenced docket is being forwarded to you pursuant to Hawaii  
Administrative Rules § 6-61-29(b).

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Ji Sook Kim".

Ji Sook Kim  
Commission Counsel

Enclosure

c: Morihara Lau & Fong LLP



Connie <sittall@yahoo.com>

10/03/2009 12:30 AM

To hawaii.puc@hawaii.gov

cc

bcc

Subject Hawaiian Beaches Water Co. rate increase request

To: Hawaii Public Utilities Commission (HPUC)  
465 South King Street, Room 103  
Honolulu, HI 96813

Cc: Catherine Awakuni  
Division of Consumer Advocacy

Aloha Mai,

This letter is to protest Hawaiian Beaches Water Company's (HBWC) request for a \$5.78 per 1000 gallon monthly water charge PLUS a monthly service charge of \$30. I was out of town when the PUC and HBWC scheduled their public hearing in Pahoa so was unable to respond at that time.

I am thankful that HBWC improved our water facilities by installing a new well and water tank and support their request to be compensated. They have also gone to the expense of installing meters to more accurately gauge water consumption. However their current rate request is not fair to low consumption users. A more equitable scale would be based on usage with only a nominal monthly fee. I, personally, have no problem with the \$5.78 charge per 1K gallons used monthly with a built in adjustment for electricity costs, but strongly encourage the commission to lower the fixed monthly fee to \$7 - \$12.

With this rate a person who uses only 4K gallons would pay up to \$35 (with the \$12 fee) and someone like myself, (I filled my pool last month) who uses 16k gallons, would pay up to \$104. This would also give a financial break to people who are absent from their property and not using any water. Customers who are low income will have an option to keep their monthly costs down by being frugal with water use. The water company can still make a profit and we, the consumers, would be more responsible for our consumption.

If excessive water consumption needs to be discouraged, perhaps a sliding scale for usage could be instituted. Customers using less than 5000 gallons could pay a cheaper rate per thousand gallons and those using more than 5000 gallons could pay more.

One last thought - HBWC has asked for a ROR of 9%. Please note that the only stock holders in the company are the two owners - who are already paying themselves healthy salaries as head employees of the company.

I am aware there are deadlines to be met, so I thank you for your consideration of this most urgent matter.

Mahalo.

Connie Lain  
15-2680 Palani St.  
P.hoa, HI 96778